



PacificE-HealthInnovationCenter(P-eIC)

On 17 March 00, the Pacific Regional Program Office (PRPO) formally changed its name to the Pacific e-Health Innovation Center (P-eIC). The new name will more closely reflect the research initiative activities of the center, and will afford an "at a glance" view of the group's mission, vision, and purpose.

The Congressionally directed Akamai and Pacific Medical Network (PMN) projects, which are managed under the P-eIC umbrella, operate within a unique arrangement that serves as a model to be emulated by other Department of Defense (DoD) agencies. The Akamai effort is a telemedicine research and development (R&D) project under the executive control of MG John Parker, Commanding General, Medical Research and Materiel Command (MRMC), while the PMN effort is an OSD Health Affairs (HA) effort, both of which are under operational direction of MG Nancy Adams, Commanding General, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC). The common link between OSD (HA) and the two Commanding Generals is an acquisition qualified Program Manager and Army Nurse Corps officer, LTC(p) Rosemary Nelson, who is assigned to MG Parker's command and is responsible for managing the Pacific e-Health Innovation Center (P-eIC), located at TAMC.

The P-eIC focuses on prototyping, demonstration, validation and maturing of telehealth initiatives carried out in the only Tri Service telemedicine test bed in the Pacific. With the vision of leading a global revolution in public/private health care delivery through universal access to expertise using innovative processes and state-of-the-art technology, the P-eIC engages in R&D studies which focus on outcomes in five product lines:

- **Applied e-Health** — exploits use of technology tools for the provision and enhancement of patient care delivery via remote access to health care services and providers.
- **Research and Concept Exploration** — investigate promising clinical research questions and emerging technology issues resulting in contribution to the scientific discipline of clinical informatics.
- **Distance Learning & Mentorship** — facilitates internal and external training and education to various organizations in the Pacific to include mentorships and distance learning programs.
- **e-Health Process & Policy Analysis** — fosters change management to support use of technology to meet military readiness requirements, assess policy issues needing review due to Business Practice Reengineering (BPR) and technology capabilities.
- **e-Health Collaboration** — promote collaborative relations, partnerships, and strategic alliances for information sharing and dissemination of telehealth resources and knowledge.

Some of the initiatives that have been undertaken by the P-eIC include: behavioral health projects, electronic consultation and referral projects, and the development of multimedia telehealth systems using store-and-forward technology. These initiatives have delivered several successful prototypes that have greatly improved the delivery of care and readiness in the Pacific.

Significant milestones were met in a number of P-eIC projects during the last year. Version 1.6 of the Theater Telemedicine Prototype Project was implemented in June 99 between Schofield Barracks Family Practice Clinic and Tripler Army Medical Center for initial evaluation in a clinical environment. To date, 77 dermatology and orthopedic consults have been completed. T2P2 has been well received by patients and providers. Version 1.7 was also successfully configured for the field and implemented in support of the Advanced Concepts Technology Demonstration-Medical (ACTD) and Patriot Medstar at Camp Park, CA. Currently, Version 2.2 of T2P2 is deployed in support of the ACTD efforts in Cobra Gold 2000.

The Pacific Island Health Care Project (PIHCP), a project utilizing web-based forms and a database system enabling a network of medical specialists to send/receive electronic consultation throughout the Western Pacific, installed its field version 3.0 into Yap, Kosrae, CNMI, Ebeye, Guam and American Samoa.

On December 7, 1999 the Pacific Medical Network software was activated for a "live test demonstration" between Tripler Army Medical Center and the Honolulu Veterans Medical Center. This test has established the first sharing of medical information between the DoD's CHCS and the VHA's VistA healthcare information systems. The event gained local media exposure including television coverage.

The P-eIC received significant public recognition awards during the past year when its Theater Telemedicine Prototype Project (T2P2) received an Excellence Award from Government Computer News, and its Pacific Oncology Outreach Program/Internet Tumor Board project won two industry awards for excellence; the Enterprise Value Award from CIOMagazine, and the Government Technology Leadership Award from Government Executive Magazine. Most recently, P-eIC has been notified of winning The Government Solutions Center's e-Gov 2000 Pioneer Award, for its Pacific Medical Network (PACMEDNET) Project.

Extensive media/public exposure for the organization was gained throughout the year, as written articles featuring the P-eIC appeared locally (*the Honolulu Star Bulletin*, *Hawaii Healthcare News*, *Hawaii Army Weekly*, and *Pacific Business News*), and internationally (*Military Medical Technology Magazine*, *Government Computer News*, *U.S. Medicine*, *Healthcare Informatics*, and *The Mercury*). Many P-eIC participants also represented the organization in presenting papers at various professional meetings throughout the year.

The P-eIC also increased its industry presence by exhibiting and speaking at the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Conference, the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) Conference, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) Conference, and the TRICARE Conference. In addition, the P-eIC participated in a technology demonstration to members of Congress, bringing a number of its projects and personnel to the Hart Senate Building in Washington D.C.